In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows, where added material is underlined and material to be deleted is indicated by strikethrough font. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-12 (cancelled)

Claim 13. (currently amended) An indwelling catheter comprising:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body consists essentially of a non-porous polymer in intimate contact with a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent on the tissue-contacting surface wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is in a concentration effective ~~comprises a polymer in which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is intimately mixed in a concentration with said polymer such that a non-porous polymer release system is formed with said agent~~ for modulating degradation or tissue encapsulation of said catheter.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 13 further comprising one or more helical coils formed in the elongate body between the proximal and distal ends.

Claim 15. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 13 wherein the polymer is selected from the group of polyurethanes, silicones, polyamides, polyimides, polycarbonates, polyethers, polyesters, polyvinyl aromatics, polytetrafluoroethylenes, polyolefins, acrylic polymers or copolymers, vinyl halide polymers or copolymers, polyvinyl ethers, polyvinyl esters, polyvinyl ketones, polyvinylidine halides, polyacrylonitriles, copolymers of vinyl monomers with each other and olefins, and combinations thereof.

Claim 16. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 15 wherein the polymer is selected from the group of polyurethanes, silicones, or combination thereof.

Claim 17. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 13 wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is a glucocorticosteroid.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 17 wherein the glucocorticosteroid is selected from the group of cortisol, cortisone, fludrocortisone, Prednisone, Prednisolone, 6α–methylprednisolone, triamcinolone, betamethasone, dexamethasone, beclomethasone, aclomethasone, amcinonide, clebethasol, clocortolone, derivatives thereof, and salts thereof.

Claim 19. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 18 wherein the glucocorticosteroid is dexamethasone, a derivative thereof, or a salt thereof.

Claims 20-23 (cancelled)

Claim 24. (previously presented) The indwelling catheter of claim 13 wherein the tissue-contacting surface further includes heparin.

Claims 25-26 cancelled.

Claim 27. (currently amended) A method of modulating tissue encapsulation of an indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an overcoating consisting essentially of a non-porous ~~of a~~ polymer in ~~which an effective~~ intimate contact with a ~~amount of~~ steroidal anti-inflammatory agent at the tissue-contacting surface wherein the amount of anti-inflammatory agent is ~~intimately mixed such that a non-porous polymer release system is formed with said agent in the polymer means~~ effective for modulating tissue encapsulation of said indwelling catheter.

Claim 28 (cancelled)

Claim 29. (currently amended) A method of modulating degradation of an

indwelling catheter comprising implanting the indwelling catheter into a patient, wherein the indwelling catheter comprises:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body consisting essentially of a non-porous ~~comprises a~~ polymer ~~intimately mixed~~ in intimate contact at the tissue-contacting surface with ~~an effective amount of~~ steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, the amount of agent being effective ~~such that a non-porous polymer release system is formed with said agent~~ for modulating degradation of said indwelling catheter.

Claim 30-32 (cancelled)

Claim 33. (currently amended) A method of making an indwelling catheter comprising:

providing an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; wherein the tissue-contacting surface comprises an overcoat consisting essentially of a non-porous ~~of a~~ polymer ~~intimately mixed~~ in intimate contact at the tissue-contacting surface with ~~an effective amount of~~ a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, the amount of agent being effective ~~such that a non-porous polymer release system is formed with said agent~~ for modulating degradation or tissue encapsulation of said indwelling catheter; and

coupling an external fitting to the proximal end of the elongate body.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the step of providing an elongate body comprises intimately mixing the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent with the polymer in a solvent and applying the mixture to the elongate body to form a tissue-contacting surface.

Claim 35 (cancelled)

Claim 36. (previously presented) The catheter of claim 13, wherein the polymer is a non-porous polymer.

Claim 37. (previously presented) The catheter of claim 13, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is between .1% and 1% of the total solid combined weight of

the polymer and the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

Claim 38. (previously presented) The catheter of claim 37, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of dexamethasone and beclomethasone.

Claim 39. (previously presented) The catheter of claim 13, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is impregnated into the polymer of the tissue-contacting surface.

Claim 40 (cancelled)

Claim 41. (original) The method of claim 29, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is impregnated into the polymer of the tissue-contacting surface.

Claim 42 (cancelled)

Claim 43. (original) The method of claim 29, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is between .1% and 1% of the total solid combined weight of the polymer and the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

Claim 44. (original) The method of claim 43, wherein the steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is selected from the group consisting of dexamethasone and beclomethasone.